

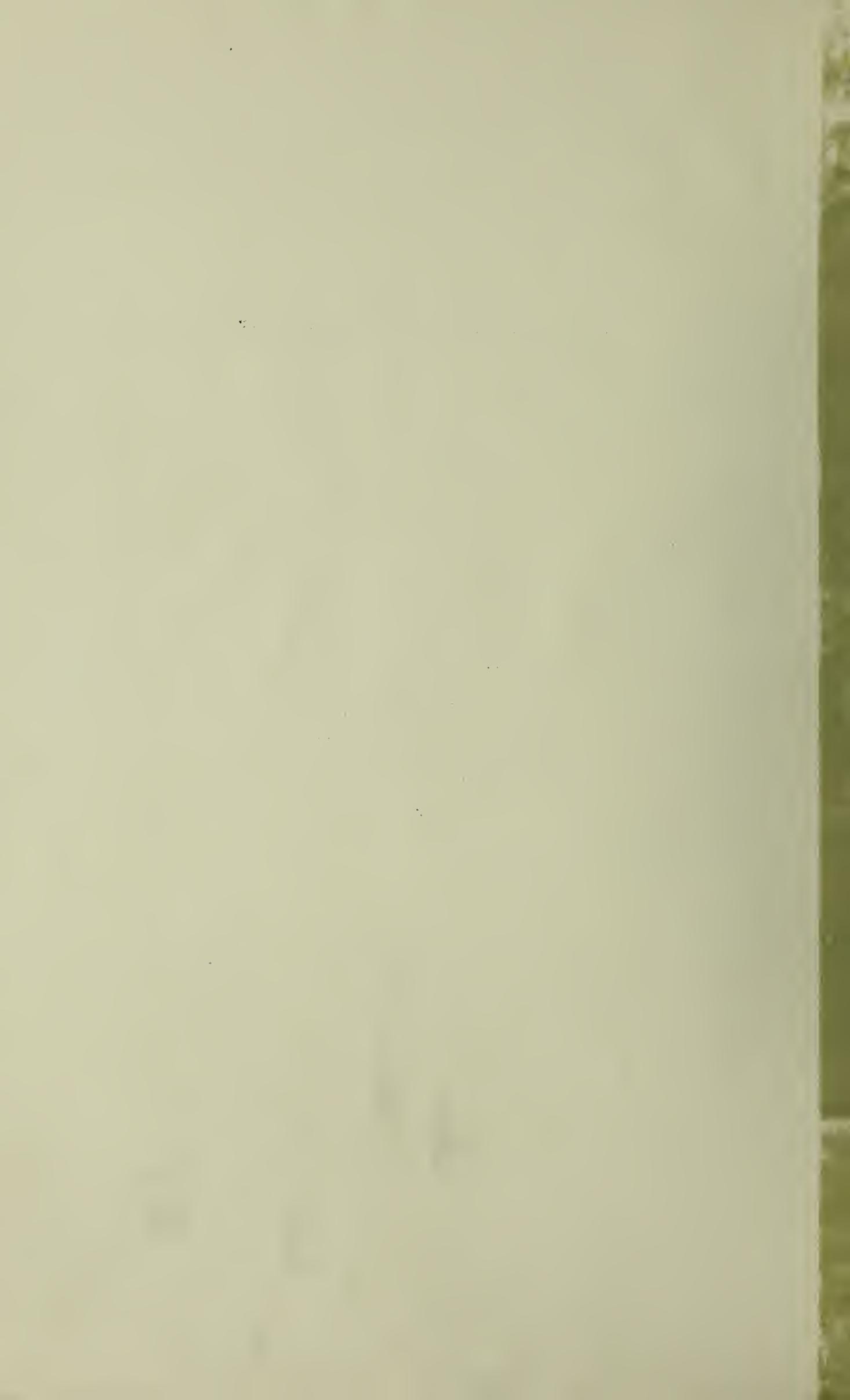
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GRANGE-OVER-SANDS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1954.



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ULVERSTON.

November, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Grange-over-Sands Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1954.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	1,884
Population-Census, 1951	3,071
-Registrar-General's Estimate mid-1954	2,810
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1954	1,048
Rateable Value	£33,476
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£153

The Urban District of Grange-over-Sands is situated on the northern shore of the estuary of the River Kent which forms part of Morecambe Bay. It is a residential town and holiday resort.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The principal vital statistics for 1954 and for the preceding five years are given in the table on page two.

Of the 25 births registered, 13 were males and 12 were females of which one was illegitimate.

Approximately 90% of deaths were in persons of 65 years of age and over. The main causes of death were:.. Heart disease 14, Vascular lesions of the nervous system 11 and Coronary disease 10.

Year.	Live Births.		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths.		Maternal mortality.		Infant Mortality.	
	Rate per 1,000 popula- tion.	Number recis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 popula- tion.	Number recis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 popula- tion.	Number recis- tered.	No. of doctors regis- tered.	No. of per- 1,000 live births.	No. of doctors regis- tered.	No. of per- 1,000 live births.
1954	25	2.9	61	21.7	21.1	21.1	111	111	1	40
1953	27	9.6	61	21.7	21.1	21.1	111	111	1	40
1952	27	9.8	53	19.2	1	36	111	111	1	37
1951	26	9.4	40	14.4	2	71	111	111	1	37
1950	25	9.1	44	16.0	21	21	111	111	1	40
1949	30	10.9	50	15.9	11	11	111	111	—	—
Average 5 years 1949-1953	—	9.6	—	17.0	—	21	—	—	15	—

highest live birth ratio (conversability factor, 1.47) = 13.1
lowest death ratio (conversability factor, 0.50) = 10.9

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales, 160 Smaller towns and this district.

The rates quoted are for 1,000 population in all cases.

Year	England and Wales.		160 Smaller towns 25,000-50,000 population.		Grange-over-Sands Urban District.	
	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
1950	15.8	11.6	16.7	11.6	12.3	9.6
1951	15.5	12.5	16.7	12.5	12.6	8.6
1952	15.3	11.3	15.5	11.2	13.0	11.5
1953	15.5	11.4	15.7	11.3	12.8	13.0
1954	15.2	11.3	15.4	11.0	15.1	10.9

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:-

J. L. M.D., M.A., M.B., B.Chr.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments Held:-

Medical Officer of Health -
Dalton-in-Furness Urban District,
Ulverston Urban District,
Ulverston Rural District.

Divisional Medical Officer -
Health Division No. 1 -
Lancashire County Council.

Sanitary Inspector:-

R. BATHURST, A.I.C.S.,
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate
R.S.I., Inspector of Meat and
other Foods. Chartered
Surveyor.

Other Appointments Held:-

Assistant Surveyor.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The water supply to Grange Urban District is from moorland gathering grounds which are not cultivated but are grazed by sheep.

The gathering grounds are situated at Chapel House Plantation in the Parish of Staveley in the Ulverston Rural District and a further area at Newton-in-Cartmel, where the reservoirs and treatment works are situated. The reservoirs have a total capacity of 32,500,000 gallons. After treatment with lime, filtration and chlorination the water passes to a storage tank of 140,000 gallons capacity and then to the trunk mains for distribution. There are three service reservoirs in Grange, at Indermore Road (150,000 gallons), Hampsfell (200,000 gallons) and Cartbarrow (200,000 gallons) which serve as reservoirs in case of interruption in trunk mains and also for equalising demand in the trunk mains.

The supply was adequate throughout the year and it was again unnecessary during the summer to bring into operation the emergency arrangements of previous years, due no doubt to the fact that the rainfall was above average.

Eight samples were taken for bacteriological examination from various taps in the district, and two at the treatment works, all were found to be satisfactory.

There are no private water supplies within the area and all houses have a piped water supply.

One sample for chemical examination was taken at the waterworks, it was found to be satisfactory.

The 9" trunk main from Morlewood to Grange was started during the year and some 2,500 yards completed. This will improve supplies to Grange Fell District.

Extension of 6" mains at Priory Lane, Tents Fold and Kilmidylke Estate were laid for future development.

The construction of a new impounding reservoir and treatment works of 50 million gallons capacity were started during the year. This will no doubt solve the water storage problem and improve the quality of water in the future.

Rainfall.

January	4.71	July	5.77
February	5.05	August	6.60
March	3.41	September	8.43
April	1.76	October	6.23
May	3.92	November	9.72
June	5.43	December	7.55

<u>Year.</u>	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1940	9.17	5.35	12.54	17.61	44.67
1941	9.68	6.69	9.78	13.93	40.08
1942	8.12	7.89	17.08	14.50	47.59
1943	12.55	12.36	19.72	13.20	57.83
1944	8.61	10.90	16.22	20.33	56.06
1945	13.22	10.80	10.20	10.39	44.61
1946	12.97	8.72	20.12	16.83	51.64
1947	9.89	12.42	9.87	11.74	43.92
1948	16.86	13.69	14.95	15.39	55.89
1949	9.29	9.10	9.06	21.02	42.55
1950	11.83	8.63	21.04	12.87	54.37
1951	15.86	5.87	13.72	12.86	48.31
1952	10.38	9.58	8.14	10.24	38.34
1953	5.97	8.94	13.50	13.74	42.15
1954	13.17	11.13	20.85	23.50	66.65
15 years average.	11.17	9.43	14.45	15.03	50.18

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The sewerage to the Urban District is a combined system and disposal is by rough screening followed by discharge into the tidal estuary.

Most of the district is sewered, apart from isolated areas which are dependent on septic tanks. These areas are briefly, the higher parts of Grange Fell, The Slack area of Windermere Road, Lyndene Estate, a number of farms on Holme Island.

Sewage from the lower end of Grange adjacent to the railway station is collected in a well situated in the Ornamental Gardens where dual pumps are installed to lift the sewage into the main outfall sewer. This sewer runs the full length of the Promenade from the station to the main outfall tanks, where sewage is screened and discharged into the estuary. The higher parts of the town (excluding Kents Bank Area) discharge into tributary sewers which ultimately join the main sewer on the Promenade.

In Kents Bank Area the main outfall sewer passes under the Railway adjacent to Kents Bank Station and then along the seaward side of the railway embankment to a screening tank (situated at Kirkhead End), the outfall from which again discharges into the estuary.

The Cart Lane area drains into a sedimentation tank and then discharges via a tidal door into the estuary. This tank is working beyond capacity.

The sedimentation tanks were emptied regularly and the system operated quite well on the whole but a few stoppages occurred due mainly to the fault of owners depositing scrubbing brushes, rags etc., in their drains.

All the houses in the Urban District are now provided with fresh water closets, there being no privies, pit closets or waste water closets.

Six houses were connected to the sewer during the year, after it had been found they were drained to a cesspool.

Twenty nine new properties were connected to the main sewers.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

A fortnightly collection of domestic refuse was maintained throughout the year. The domestic refuse is collected with a special type vehicle employing a staff of two.

Throughout the year a weekly service was maintained for the collection of trade refuse. This is undertaken jointly by the special vehicle and the general purpose vehicle, employing in all a staff of four. There is no special charge for the collection of trade refuse.

The whole of the refuse is dealt with at the Council's incinerator and other material like builder's refuse, etc., is tipped off site to the incinerator. The attempt made to stop indiscriminate tipping has resulted in an improvement in the state of the tip.

Informal action was taken in a few cases for the provision of refuse bins and in all cases the notices were complied with. All the ash pits have now been replaced with movable bins. A certain amount of salvage was sold during the year but the demand still fluctuates.

Swimming Bath.

A modern open air swimming bath of 445,000 gallons capacity is provided and maintained by the Council. Sea water is taken at appropriate states of the tide, filtered, aerated and chlorinated, and when bath is in use the water is constantly circulated and treated. Samples taken at regular intervals during the summer were satisfactory. Due to the weather the attendances during the year were below average.

Details regarding the inspection of meat, shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is prepared are given in the report of the Sanitary Inspector, as also are particulars of registration under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 and 1948.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

HOUSING.

The standard of housing is on the average fairly good. Most of the older houses are stone structures, all having the water carriage system of drainage, and movable dustbins. Most of the older and smaller dwellings in Grange Fell District are owner-occupied and are kept in reasonable state of repair. The main defect to this type of property is the lack of yard space due to outbuildings being erected indiscriminately, but most have gardens of considerable size, thereby reducing their density.

Apart from the aforementioned, most of the houses are of modern brick and/or stone construction and of a larger type, having all services.

With regard to Council housing, Fell Close site is completed and another site of ten maisonettes and flats for housing the older people is being developed at Moorfield Road and will be completed during next year.

No conditions of overcrowding were reported.

Statistics.

New Housing.

		<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Flats.</u>
Number of new houses erected during the year:			
1.	By local authority.	4	Nil
2.	By other local authorities.	Nil	Nil
3.	By other bodies or persons.	25	Nil

A Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	4
	(b)	Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose.	10
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1. above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1936.	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	Nil
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	3

B Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.	2
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C Action under statutory powers during the year:-

1.	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs.	1
(b)	Number of dwelling houses which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit:	
	(i) By owners	Nil
	(ii) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
2.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	Nil
3.	Proceedings under sections 11, 12, 15 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.	Nil

D Housing Acts, 1949-54 Improvement Grants, etc.:-

	Schemes of private bodies or individuals	Schemes of local authority.
(a) Number of Schemes submitted (a) by private individuals to local authority	1	-
(b) by local authority to Ministry	-	-
Number of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	1	-
(b) Number of Schemes finally approved	1	-
Number of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	1	-
Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under the approved Schemes	-	-
(c) Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year	-	-
(d) Any other action taken under the Act	-	-

Camping Sites.

There is only one site used for movable dwellings in the district. This is used for short periods (within the statutory limit) by the campers and informal action is necessary on occasions.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

An increase in the total number of infectious diseases notified was due to an outbreak of measles, which occurred in the 2nd quarter of the year.

Disease.	1954					Number of cases.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953			
Scarlet fever.	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0
Measles.	1	68	3	1	18	86	0	0
Whooping cough.	3	19	2	1	0	4	0	0
Pneumonia.	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0
Erysipelas.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis.	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Food-poisoning.	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

TUBERCULOSIS.

No cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Most of the factories in Grange are allied to other businesses, such as shops, bakehouses and workshops operating machines, and are therefore legally designated as factories. Most of these were visited and informal action necessary on a few occasions for want of cleanliness or unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Number on Register.</u>	<u>Number of written Inspections</u>	<u>Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted.</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	1	1	Nil	Nil
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	22	17	2	Nil

Shops and Offices.

Thirty eight inspections were made under the 'Shops Act, 1950' and ten of offices under the 'Public Health Act 1936'. Only informal action was necessary where notices were not displayed and cleanliness not up to standard.

Schools.

There are three schools within the district, all have a satisfactory mains water supply and sanitary accommodation, and are provided with dustbins. All are drained to the public sewer.

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades operating in Grange.

NATIONAL INSPECTION ACTS. 1940 and 1951.

No action was taken under the above acts during the year.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended.

In conclusion, I thank the members of the Health Committee and the officers of the Grange Urban District Council and, in particular the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor for their courtesy and help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. THOMAS.

Medical Officer of Health.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector on the Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

There is only tuberculin tested milk supplied in the area, there is no heat treated milk sold. There are six dealers registered, four have premises outside the district, one operates from a dairy farm and another from a dairy in the district.

Sampling of milk was carried out regularly throughout the year 36 samples being taken, only four of these were found to be unsatisfactory but none contained tubercle bacilli.

Ice Cream.

There are eighteen premises registered for the sale of ice cream and five for the manufacture by the cold mix method. All except the five sell wrapped ice cream from reputable firms and samples invariably prove to be satisfactory.

Meat Inspection.

During the year meat marketing ended and the question of private slaughtering facilities arose. Only one butcher applied for the licensing of a private slaughterhouse and this was granted subject to certain improvements being carried out to bring the premises up to the required standard.

These works were completed in July and slaughtering commenced. Since then further improvements such as electrical stunning and other facilities for pig slaughtering have been completed.

Statistics are given as to number slaughtered and number of diseased carcasses.

The remaining butchers use the central slaughterhouse at Ulverston or buy their meat from wholesale suppliers.

	<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep-Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number killed.	53	3	3-9	25
Number inspected.	53	3	389	25
<u>Diseased (except tuberculosus)</u>				
whole carcase	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Part of carcase or organ.	13	Nil	156	Nil
Percentage affected.	25%	Nil	40%	4%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>				
Whole carcase.	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part of carcase or organs.	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage affected	13%	Nil	Nil	Nil

Condemnation of Food.

Due to the end of rationing the amount of food inspected was reduced.

During the year the following articles of food were surrendered after condemnation.

14 tins of meat.
1 lb. shrimps.
 $2\frac{1}{4}$ gallons. cream.

General.

Nearly all the food premises comply with the requirements of the 'Food and Drugs Act' and the byelaws made thereunder.

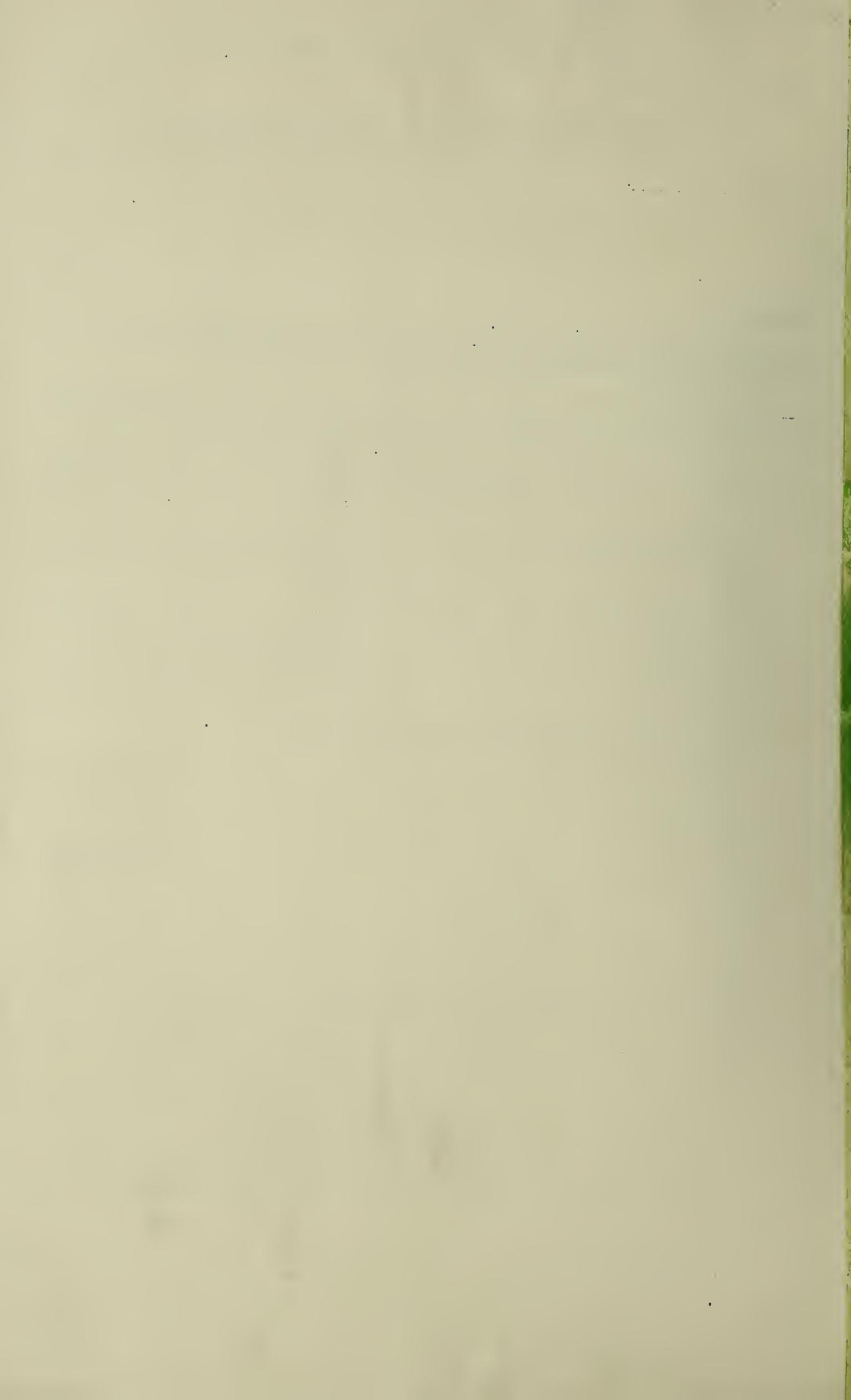
On inspection informal action was necessary in a few cases not generally regarding construction of premises but bad practice of food handling.

I have the honour to be,

Yours obediently,

H. BAKENDALE.

Sanitary Inspector.



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2		Staff
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